

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1           1.       (Currently amended) A joint prosthesis system for implantation in a patient,  
2 comprising:  
3               a body having a central canal extending therethrough; ~~and~~  
4               a head coupled to the body;  
5               a shaft coupled to the body and extending through the central canal[[,]]; and  
6               a replacement shaft, wherein the shaft is interchangeable after implantation of  
7 the prosthesis by removing the shaft and replacing the shaft with a the replacement shaft  
8 without dislodging the body from the patient.

1           2.       (Original) The joint prosthesis of claim 1, wherein the shaft is coupled to the  
2 body via insertion of the shaft through an end of the central canal nearest an articular surface  
3 of the prosthesis and the shaft is removed from the body by reversing the direction of  
4 insertion.

1           3.       (Original) The joint prosthesis of claim 2, wherein the shaft is coupled to the  
2 body via a taper lock between the shaft and the body.

1           4.       (Original) The joint prosthesis of claim 3, wherein the taper lock is a Morse  
2 taper lock.

1           5.       (Original) The joint prosthesis of claim 1, wherein the joint prosthesis is  
2 configured to replace a hip joint.

1           6.       (Original) The joint prosthesis of claim 1, wherein the joint prosthesis is  
2 configured to replace a shoulder joint.

1           7.       (Original) The joint prosthesis of claim 1, wherein the replacement shaft is an  
2 intramedullary nail.

1           8.       (Original) The joint prosthesis of claim 1, wherein the replacement shaft is  
2 longer than the shaft.

1           9.       (Original) The joint prosthesis of claim 1, further comprising an insert  
2 coupled to the body and extending at least partially into the central canal.

1           10.      (Original) The joint prosthesis of claim 9, wherein the insert is screwed into  
2 the central canal.

1           11.      (Currently amended) A modular joint prosthesis having an articular surface  
2 for implantation in a patient, comprising:

3                   a body stem coupled to the articular surface[[],]; and  
4                   ~~the stem comprising a proximal portion nearest the articular surface and a~~  
5 ~~distal portion~~ a shaft coupled to the body and configured to extend into a long bone of the  
6 patient;

7                   wherein the shaft ~~distal portion~~ may be removed from the patient stem after  
8 implantation of the prosthesis without also removing the body ~~proximal portion~~.

1           12.      (Currently amended) The modular joint prosthesis of claim 11, further  
2 comprising a central canal in the body ~~proximal portion~~ in which the shaft ~~distal portion~~ is  
3 received.

1           13.      (Currently amended) The modular joint prosthesis of claim 12, wherein the  
2 shaft ~~distal portion~~ is coupled to the body ~~proximal portion~~ via insertion of the shaft ~~distal~~  
3 ~~portion~~ through an end of the central canal nearest the articular surface and the shaft ~~distal~~  
4 ~~portion~~ is removed from the body ~~proximal portion~~ by reversing the direction of insertion.

1           14.      (Currently amended) The modular joint prosthesis of claim 13, wherein the  
2 shaft ~~distal portion~~ is coupled to the body ~~proximal portion~~ via a taper lock between the shaft  
3 ~~distal portion~~ and the body ~~proximal portion~~.

1           15.     (Currently amended) The modular joint prosthesis of claim 12, further  
2     comprising an insert coupled to the body proximal portion and extending at least partially into  
3     the central canal.

1           16.     (Original) The modular joint prosthesis of claim 15, wherein the insert is  
2     screwed into the central canal.

1           17.     (Original) The modular joint prosthesis of claim 11, wherein the joint  
2     prosthesis is configured to replace a hip joint.

1           18.     (Original) The modular joint prosthesis of claim 11, wherein the joint  
2     prosthesis is configured to replace a shoulder joint.

1           19.     (Currently amended) A method of replacing a shaft of a joint prosthesis  
2     having a body, a head, and a shaft after the joint prosthesis has been implanted in a patient,  
3     comprising:

4                   creating an access aperture in the patient for access to the joint prosthesis;  
5                   removing the shaft from the patient without removing the body or the head;  
6                   inserting a replacement shaft into the patient;  
7                   coupling the replacement shaft to the body;  
8                   locking the replacement shaft into place in the patient; and  
9                   closing the access aperture.

1           20.     (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the body has an aperture  
2     configured to receive the shaft or the replacement shaft and wherein the coupling step  
3     includes inserting the replacement shaft into the aperture.

1           21.     (Original) The method of claim 20, further comprising coupling an insert to  
2     the body, the insert extending at least partially into the aperture.

1           22.     (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the replacement shaft is an  
2     intramedullary nail.

1           23.    (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the replacement shaft is longer  
2   than the shaft.

1           24.    (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the shaft is removed with the aid  
2   of a shaft removal device.

1           25.    (Currently amended) A modular joint prosthesis system, comprising:  
2               a body;  
3               an articular surface coupled to the body;  
4               a first shaft configured to be coupled to the body; and  
5               a second shaft configured to be coupled to the body, wherein the second shaft  
6   is used to replace the first shaft after implantation of the prosthesis into a patient without first  
7   removing the body from the patient.

1           26.    (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 25, wherein the first  
2   shaft is coupled to the body via insertion of the first shaft through an end of a central canal in  
3   the body nearest the articular surface and the shaft is removed from the body by reversing the  
4   direction of insertion.

1           27.    (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 26, wherein the  
2   second shaft is coupled to the body via insertion of the second shaft through the end of the  
3   central canal nearest the articular surface.

1           28.    (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 25, wherein the shaft  
2   is coupled to the body via a taper lock between the shaft and the body.

1           29.    (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 28, wherein the taper  
2   lock is a Morse taper lock.

1           30.    (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 26, further  
2   comprising an insert coupled to the body.

1           31.    (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 30, wherein the insert  
2   is screwed into the central canal.

1           32.     (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 25, wherein the joint  
2     prosthesis is configured to replace a hip joint.

1           33.     (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 25, wherein the joint  
2     prosthesis is configured to replace a shoulder joint.

1           34.     (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 25, wherein the  
2     second shaft is an intramedullary nail.

1           35.     (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 25, wherein the  
2     second shaft is longer than the first shaft.

1           36.     (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 25, further  
2     comprising a shaft removal device configured to be coupled to the first shaft.

1           37.     (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 36, wherein the first  
2     shaft includes a threaded recess and the shaft removal device includes a threaded portion  
3     configured to be screwed into the threaded recess to couple the shaft removal device to the  
4     first shaft.

1           38.     (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 25, further  
2     comprising a head coupled to the body, the head having the articular surface.

1           39.     (New) The joint prosthesis of claim 38, further comprising a neck connected  
2     to the body, wherein the head is coupled to the body via the neck.

1           40.     (New) The joint prosthesis of claim 1, further comprising a neck connected to  
2     the body, wherein the head is coupled to the body via the neck.